function as a unit under the overall charge of a designated officer. The steps taken by the State Governments will be reviewed in the Conference of Relief Commissioners of the State Governments in March, 2003.

Children staying in jails with their mothers

813. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how children staying in jail with their mothers, are looked after by the jail authorities;

(b) whether adequate nutritional and educational arrangements are being made for these children;

(c) whether the Supreme Court had issued notice to the Ministry of Home Affairs on women and children to improve the conditions of children in the jail; and

(d) if so, whether the Ministry has taken notice of Supreme Court's anxiety and has it improved the situation in the jails.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Food, clothes, education, creche and other facilities to children staying in jails with their prisoner mothers are provided according to the provisions of the respective jail Manuals of the States/UTs.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Home Affairs is alive to the condition of women in jail and children staying in jails with their prisoner mothers, and share the concern of the Supreme Court in the matter. Besides providing financial support, it has also been advising the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations from time to time to take special measures to improve the condition of women in jails and the children living with them.

Reasons for floods in H.P.

†814. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study to ascertain basic reasons of severe flood three years back in Kinnaur, the border district of Himachal Pradesh which caused great loss to life and property;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have considered to take any steps to check the occurrence of such incidents because of ecological imbalance in the border area due to clandestine nuclear tests and experiments in the neighbouring country, China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The river Sutlej originates from Rakas/ Mansarovar lakes from Tibet region in China. It traverseas a long distance in Tibet before entering into India. Hence large catchments areas lie in Tibet region. An unprecedented flash flood occurred in the river Sutlej in the early hour of 1st August 2000 with an estimated peak of one lakh eighty thousand cusecs observed at 5.30 hours near Rampur, BBMB a few kms. from Jakhri Power House site.The total base of flash flood was only for 6 hours, which appeared quite unusual. Attempts were made to ascertain the cause of flash flood by Central Water Commission, Ministry of Water Resources and also NRSA Hyderabad. It was noticed that there were no corresponding, wide spread rain in the upper catchments in the Indian side. It was therefore conjectured that the flash could be due to some cloud burst in the upper catchments or a lake burst due to some avalanche in the Tibet region.

The NRSA Hyderabad in its studies suggested that there could be high possibility of cloud burst in Tibet region causing heavy rainfall. Also water accumulation due to some isolated blockades adding to the heavy rainfall is also one possibility of the cause of heavy floods.

An inter-ministerial team, which visited the flash flood site from 7th to 9th August observed that the flash flood could have been caused by failure of water impounding system in Tibet resulting in a way of water racing down the course of river.

(d) The Government of India entered with a dialogue with the Government of China to explore the possibility of transfer of Hydrological data for the rivers originating in China so that advance warning is issued and such catastrophic incidents avoided. A team of officers comprising of Members from Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of External Affairs and NUPC visited China on 8th to 9th June, 2001 in this regard. As a consequence to this, an agreement regarding sharing of Hydrological

data for river Brahmaputra has been signed with Government of China but regarding sharing of data for river Sutlej, no such agreement has been arrived at.

Land erosion in Assam

815. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total land area eroded due to erosion in Assam year-wise since April, 1995 to October, 2002 showing agricultural and habitable land separately;

(b) the number of families become homeless due to erosion in Assam since April, 1995 till October, 2002;

(c) the number of families affected and total value of damage done due to flood year-wise during the period; and

(d) the amount allocated from National Calamity Relief Fund and remained utilized during this period in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Information is awaited from the State Government.

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	CRF	NFCR/NCCF
1995-96	47.20	—
1996-97	50.01	21.00
1997-98	52.77	—:
1998-99	55.47	59.90
1999-00	57.83	—
2000-01	101.49	—
2001-02	106.57	—
2002-03	111.89	—

An amount of Rs. 177.51 crore was available, as unutilized in November 2002 with the State Government.